

June 19, 1958

Dear Sam:

The announcement of William Levitt that his new project near Burlington, N.J., would have a policy like his other projects which were all-white has properly stirred up a storm of protest.

We understand that the Levitt organization is seeking to work something out but I do not know exactly what it is and for obvious reasons they do not feel they can make any kind of announcement at this time.

Some representatives of the Levitt organization have talked to me and Thurgood since Mr. Levitt's announcement in the press.

We have made no promises and entered into no agreements.

We have said to them that if any inquiries are made of us, we will say simply that we understand the Levitt organization is trying to work something out. It is possible that this position of ours may be loosely interpreted or distorted in the matter of neutrality, political and otherwise, in New Jersey. For that reason I wanted you to have this written statement which is only that we understand the Levitt organization is trying to work something out.

We have pointed out that our people in New Jersey will have to proceed as they see fit in the light of the information they have and that the DAD in New Jersey will have to proceed in its normal fashion.

From one city in New Jersey I received information Tuesday that Negro applicants had been courteously received and interviewed at the office, but that no promises had been given them. In view of the past performances of the Levitt organization we of the NAACP, while trying to withhold every assertion from it in good faith, nevertheless must remain true to our policy. Until a concrete favorable act takes place or an understandable policy is made known, our position must be one based upon the open declaration by the Levitt organization.

Very sincerely yours,

Wm. L. Williams

Executive Secretary

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